

Weekly Influenza Summary:

No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza were reported for Arizona during the first three weeks (weeks 40-42) of the 2008-2009 influenza season. The influenza-like-illness rate is higher than the state baseline for weeks 40 and 41. However, these rates are based on data from fewer than 11 reporting sites through out the state.

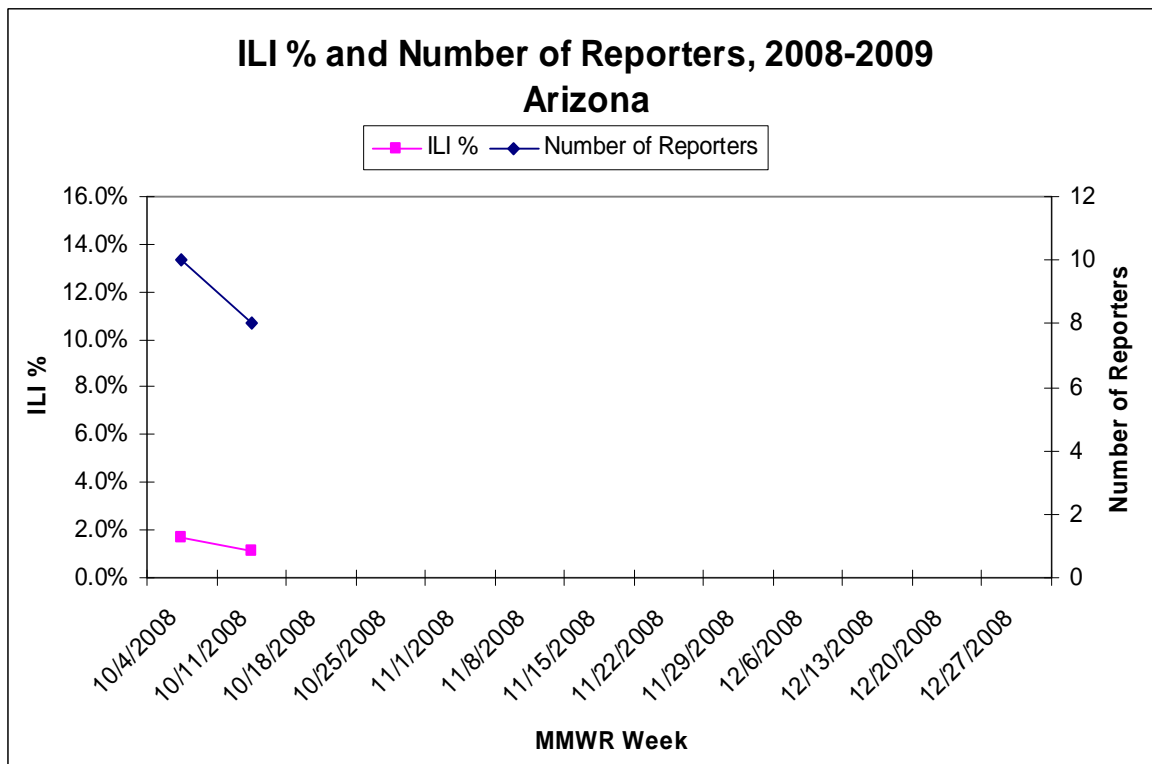
Data in this report are provisional and may change as more reports are received.

National influenza surveillance data are available at the CDC's Influenza Surveillance site (<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>).

Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance from Sentinel Providers

The proportion of patient visits to sentinel providers for ILI in the state was 1.7% for the week ending 10/04/2008 (week 40) and 1.1% for the week ending 10/11/2008 (week 41). Both of the respective values are slightly higher than the Arizona ILI baseline (0.5%). As of 10/20/08, 10 sentinel providers reported by the end of week 40 and 8 sentinel providers reported by the end of week 41. It is important to note that participation amongst sentinel providers significantly lessens during the summer months or during the non-peak influenza activity months. Therefore, the noted ILI proportion may not be representative for the entire state of Arizona.

ILI is defined as a fever of at least 100°F plus either a cough or a sore throat.



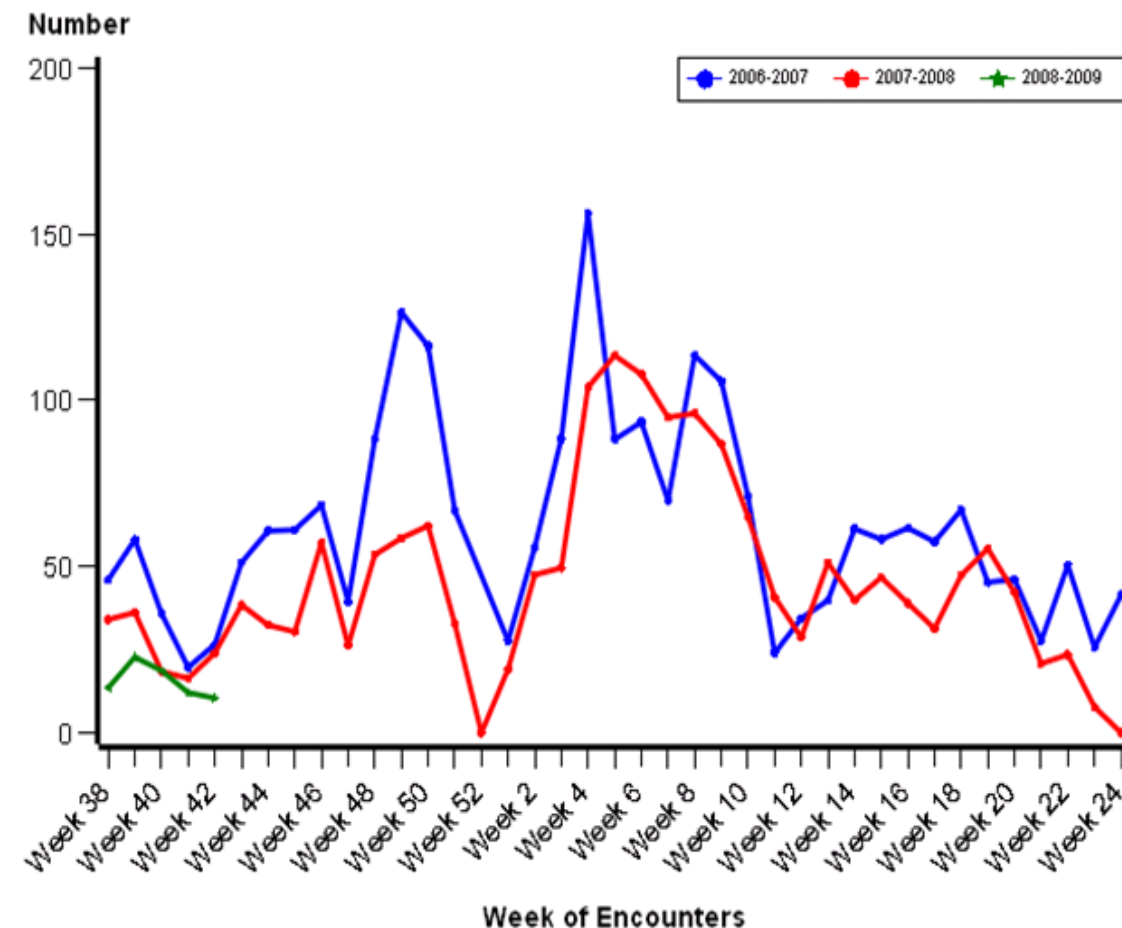
Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance from Participating Arizona Schools

ADHS and the Arizona School Nurse Consortium (AZSNC) developed and implemented a software program called Child Health Indicator Program (CHIP) to assist school nurses in electronic management of student health records. Currently, nurses in 331 Arizona schools use the software to collect information on student health conditions for 266 nursing diagnosis codes, including influenza-like illness (ILI), rash, and gastrointestinal illness (GI).

The graph presents the weekly trend of ILI syndromes reported among students during the school years of 2006-2007, 2007-2008, and 2008-2009. The number of school nurse encounters are not diagnosed cases of communicable diseases but are based on the nursing codes that school nurses enter to track student conditions. Also, the numbers in the graph are only from schools that used CHIP during the school year.

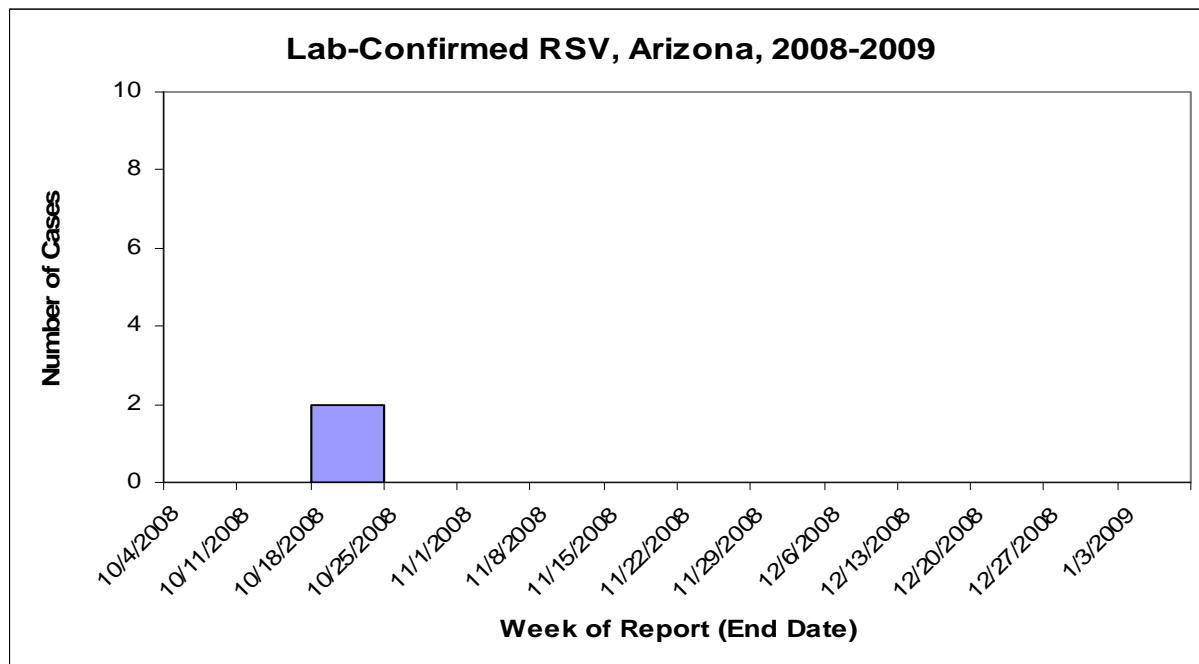
Note: Graph is based on week 41 results.

Influenza-Like Illness Per School Enrollment in Arizona (per 100,000)



RSV Activity in Arizona:

As of 10/20/2008, 2 lab-confirmed cases were reported to ADHS during the first three weeks of the 2008-2009 season. Both cases of RSV were reported to ADHS during week 42.



RSV Activity by Age and Gender:

